

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

BEEBEE MINE

GALICE AREA

JOSEPHINE COUNTY

(Old Name: Beebee Mine).

Owner:

Mr. Louis Gerlinger, 638 North 6th Street, Grants Pass, Oregon

Location:

Sec. 4, T35S, R7W. On the north side of the Rogue River near the mouth of Stratton Creek. The property is reached by continuing down the road on the north side of the river past the Hell-Gate Bridge.

Area:

27.6 acres of patented land.

History:

Placer mining has been carried on at this locality since early in the history of mining in the Galice area. There is nothing in the literature, however, that refers to this spot. According to Mr. ^{E. R.} ~~W.~~ Waite this area was formerly called the Beebee Mine and was last worked around 1927.

Development:

From the contour of the hill at least several tens of thousands of cubic yards of material must have been mined in the past. As far as is known there is no record of the production.

Geology:

This is an "old channel" or "high channel" type placer deposit. It probably represents a terrace of the Rogue River that was formed during a period of lateral gradation and minimum channel deepening. Renewed uplift caused the Rogue to again deepen its channel with the result that this deposit is now approximately 400' above the river

although it is less than one quarter of a mile to the north.

At the pit where the giant is set up it is close to 100 feet from bedrock to the top of the gravel deposit. How far to the north (lateral distance) the deposit continues is unknown, but a deposit of several millions of cubic yards is indicated. To the east and west (along both banks of the Rogue) are other "old channel" mines.

A red soil from several inches to a maximum of four feet has been developed on the gravels. The significance of this is slight as some soil must have been washed off.

The gravels of the deposit show some weathering but as a rule are fairly fresh. The bulk of them are of a metavolcanic origin; slates and granites comprise the remainder. Rounding to a slight degree has taken place but as a rule few would be classed as more than subangular. Maximum size of boulders is around three feet. Size media of the whole deposit would be around four inches.

Bedrock is a metavolcanic and was mapped as an albite diabase by Hotz and Bell.

Mining:

Mining is done by standard hydraulic methods.

A first water right is held that entitles the owner to 20 second feet from Stratton Creek.

Ditch is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and emptys into a reservoir of 800,000 gals. capacity. A ditch 400' long leads to the penstock. Intake at the penstock is 34 inches. This is followed by 500' of 30" pipe, 320' of 26" pipe, 300' of 24" pipe at which place it enters the gate. From the gate there is 900' of 16" pipe to a #3 giant. All told there is a 208' head of water.

Sluice box is 28 inches by 84 feet with a pitch of 1 to 12.
An under current 6 1/2 feet by 18 feet takes off the box.

The tailings disposal problem is nil as the box discharges over a nearly vertical cliff onto the banks of the Rogue.

Number of men employed for mining varied between 2 and 3.
Seven men were employed in setting up the operation.

Informant:

... Maj. ^{ER}~~ER~~ Waite

Report by:

H. A. Dole, May 22, 1947